

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A content providing device, comprising:

content storing and providing means for securing the exclusive storage area for each individual, from which plural kinds of contents stored there are retrieved to be provided over a network responding to a demand of a client;

a providing schedule database storing a providing schedule set up to provide said plurality of contents in each given time schedule frame one by one; and

control means for recognizing said time schedule frame of said providing schedule based on the time when said client makes said demand from said content storing and providing means over said network.

2. The content providing device according to claim 1 wherein said exclusive storage area secured for an individual is oriented to a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) assigned to said individual.

3. The content providing device according to claim 1 wherein said content storing and providing means provides continually to the last even after said time schedule frame is over while providing said content.

4. A content providing method, comprising the steps of:  
securing the exclusive storage area, from which a plurality

of contents stored there are retrieved, and recognizing the time when a client makes a demand for said contents from content storing and providing means over said network; judging the kind of a content to be provided in a time schedule frame meeting said time demanded based on a providing schedule set up to provide said plural kinds of contents in a given time schedule frame one by one; and

providing said content of the kind judged at said step of judging the kind of a content to said client through said content storing and providing means over said network.

5. The content providing method according to claim 4 wherein said exclusive storage area secured for an individual is oriented to a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) assigned to said individual.

6. The content providing method according to claim 4 wherein said step of providing said content comprises providing continually to the last even after said time schedule frame is over while providing said content.

7. A program storage medium by which to let a content providing device perform a program, comprising the steps of:

securing the exclusive storage area, from which a plurality of contents stored there are retrieved, and recognizing the time when a client makes a demand for said contents from content

storing and providing means over said network;

judging the kind of a content to be provided in a time schedule frame meeting said time demanded based on a providing schedule set up to provide said plural kinds of contents in a given time schedule frame one by one; and

providing said content of the kind judged at said step of judging the kind of a content to said client through said content storing and providing means over said network.

8. The program storage medium according to claim 7 wherein said exclusive storage area secured for an individual is oriented to a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) assigned to said individual.

9. The program storage medium according to claim 7 wherein said step of providing said content comprises providing continually to the last even after said time schedule frame is over while providing said content.

10. A content providing system, comprising:

a client demanding the providing of a content over a network; and

a content providing device to provide said content over said network responding to a demand from said client,

wherein said content providing device, comprising:

content storing and providing means for securing the

exclusive storage area for each individual, from which plural kinds of contents stored there are retrieved to be provided over a network responding to a demand of a client;

a providing schedule database storing a providing schedule set up to provide said plurality of contents in each given time schedule frame one by one; and

control means for recognizing said time schedule frame of said providing schedule based on the time when said client makes said demand from said content storing and providing means over said network.

11. The content providing system according to claim 10 wherein said exclusive storage area secured for an individual is oriented to a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) assigned to said individual.

12. The content providing system according to claim 10 wherein said content storing and providing means provides continually to the last even after said time schedule frame is over while providing said content.

13. A content providing device, comprising:

content storing and providing means for storing a content supplied from a first information processing device in the exclusive storage area placed for the public, and for providing said content to a second information processing device over a

network after reading said content from said exclusive storage area responding to a demand from said second information processing device; and

control means for performing a control in a way that a plurality of the first information processing devices share said exclusive storage area placed in said content storing and providing means for the public.

14. The content providing device according to claim 13 wherein said control means controls reservations so that a plurality of said first information processing devices may use said exclusive storage area in each time schedule frame desired respectively.

15. The content providing device according to claim 13 wherein said control means controls reservations such that said plurality of first information processing devices may use said exclusive storage area in each time schedule frame desired respectively as well as creates a reservation table for each time schedule frame, which is transmitted to said first information processing devices over said network.

16. The content providing device according to claim 13 wherein said content storing and providing means that stream-reproduces said contents through said storage area, which is provided as a real time live video of a movie to said second information

processing device.

17. The content providing device according to claim 13 wherein said content storing and providing means comprises said exclusive storage area prepared for each video category of said contents respectively.

18. A content providing method, comprising the steps of:

storing contents supplied from a first information processing device in the exclusive storage area placed for the public, and performing a control in such a way that said plurality of first information processing devices share said exclusive storage area in content storing and providing means to be provided to said second information processing device through a network after reading said contents from said storage area responding to a demand from the second information processing device; and

providing said contents supplied from said plurality of first information processing devices through said exclusive storage area to said second information processing device over said network following the control content performed in said step of performing a control.

19. The content providing method according to claim 18 wherein said step of performing a control comprises controlling reservations such that a plurality of said first information

processing devices use said exclusive storage area in each time schedule frame desired respectively.

20. The content providing method according to claim 18 wherein said step of performing a control comprises controlling reservations such that said plurality of first information processing devices may use said exclusive storage area in each time schedule frame desired respectively as well as creating a reservation table for each time schedule frame, which is transmitted to said first information processing devices over said network.

21. The content providing method according to claim 18 wherein said step of providing said content comprises stream-reproducing said content through said storage area, which is provided as a real time live video of a movie to said second information processing device.

22. The content providing method according to claim 18 wherein said content storing and providing means comprises said exclusive storage area prepared for each video category of said contents respectively.

23. A program storage medium with which to let a content providing device execute a program, comprising the steps of:

storing contents supplied from a first information processing device in the exclusive storage area placed for the public, and performing a control in such a way that said plurality of first information processing devices share said exclusive storage area in content storing and providing means to be provided to said second information processing device through a network after reading said contents from said storage area responding to a demand from the second information processing device; and

providing said contents supplied from said plurality of first information processing devices through said exclusive storage area to said second information processing device over said network following the control content performed in said step of performing a control.

24. The program storage medium according to claim 23 wherein said step of performing a control comprises controlling reservations such that said plurality of first information processing devices use said exclusive storage area in each time schedule frame desired respectively.

25. The program storage medium according to claim 23 wherein said step of performing a control comprises controlling reservations such that said plurality of first information processing devices may use said exclusive storage area in each time schedule frame desired respectively as well as creating a



reservation table for each time schedule frame, which is transmitted to said first information processing devices over said network.

26. The program storage medium according to claim 23 wherein said step of providing said content comprises stream-reproducing said contents through said storage area, which are provided as a real time live video of a movie to said second information processing device.

27. The program storage medium according to claim 23 wherein said content storing and providing means comprises said exclusive storage area prepared for each video category of said contents respectively.

28. A content providing system comprising:

a first information processing device to supply contents;

a second information processing device which makes a demand for said contents, and which receives a supply of said contents matching said demand; and

a content providing device for storing said contents supplied from said first information processing device, and for providing said contents to said second information processing device over a network after reading said contents responding to said demand from said second information processing device;

wherein said content providing device, comprising:

content storing and providing means for storing said contents supplied from said first information processing devices in the exclusive storage area placed for the public, and for providing said contents to said second information processing device over said network after reading said contents from said exclusive storage area responding to a demand from said second information processing device; and

control means for performing a control in a way that said plurality of first information processing devices share said exclusive storage area placed in said content storing and providing means for the public.

29. The content providing system according to claim 28 wherein said control means controls reservations so that said plurality of first information processing devices may use said exclusive storage area in each time schedule frame desired respectively.

30. The content providing system according to claim 28 wherein said control means comprises controlling reservations such that said plurality of first information processing devices may use said exclusive storage area in each time schedule frame desired respectively as well as creating a reservation table for each time schedule frame, which is transmitted to said first information processing devices over said network.

31. The content providing system according to claim 28 wherein said content storing and providing means stream-reproduces said contents through said storage area, which are provided as real time live video of a movie to said second information processing device.

32. The content providing system according to claim 28 wherein said content storing and providing means comprises said exclusive storage area prepared for each video category of said contents respectively.

33. A content providing device, comprising:

content storing and providing means for once storing contents supplied from an information processing device in the exclusive storage area secured for an individual person, and for providing said contents to a client over a network after retrieving them responding to a demand from said client;

providing schedule setup means for receiving providing schedule time data indicating the providing schedule time for said contents over said network, and for setting up a providing schedule for said contents based on the said providing schedule time data; and

control means for setting up the upper limitation of the number of said contents to be provided at one time, and for

notifying said information processing device over said network that a reservation is impossible at said providing schedule time, when it is detected that the number of said contents to be provided at one time at said given providing schedule time based on said providing schedule reaches said upper limitation value.

34. The content providing device according to claim 33 wherein said control means lets the display unit of said information processing device indicate a window screen with a message to the effect that a reservation is unavailable by transmitting reservation unable data indicating the unavailability of said reservation to said information processing device over said network.

35. The content providing device according to claim 33 wherein said control means lets the display unit of said information processing device indicate a window screen with a message of the unavailability of a reservation as well as another time schedule available for reservation by transmitting reservation unable data indicating the unavailability of said reservation to said information processing device over said network.

36. The content providing device according to claim 33 wherein said content storing and providing means provides a live video as said content.

37. A content reservation control method, comprising the steps of:

receiving providing schedule time data indicating the providing schedule time of said contents supplied by the content storing and providing means for once storing contents supplied from an information processing device in the exclusive storage area secured for an individual person, and providing said contents to clients over a network after retrieving them responding to a demand from said client;

setting up the providing schedule of said contents based on said providing schedule time data received at said step of receiving providing schedule time data;

setting up the upper limitation of the number of said contents to be provided at one time, and detecting the fact that said number of said contents to be provided at one time at said given providing schedule time based on said providing schedule set up by said providing schedule setup means reaches the upper limitation value; and

notifying said information processing device of the unavailability of a reservation at said providing schedule time over said network when the upper limitation value reached is detected at said step of detecting.

38. The content reservation control method according to claim 37

wherein said step of notifying of the unavailability comprises letting the display unit of said information processing device indicate a window screen with a message to the effect that a reservation is unavailable by transmitting reservation unable data indicating the unavailability of said reservation to said information processing device over said network.

39. The content reservation control method according to claim 37 wherein said step of notifying of the unavailability comprises letting the display unit of said information processing device indicate a window screen with a message of the unavailability of a reservation as well as another time schedule available for reservation by transmitting reservation unable data indicating the unavailability of said reservation to said information processing device over said network.

40. The content reservation control method according to claim 37 wherein said content storing and providing means provides a live video as said content.

41. A program storage medium with which to let a content providing device perform a program, comprising the steps of:  
receiving providing schedule time data indicating the providing schedule time of said contents supplied by the content storing and providing means for once storing contents supplied

from an information processing device in the exclusive storage area secured for an individual person, and providing said contents to a client over a network after retrieving them responding to a demand from said client;

setting up the providing schedule of said contents based on said providing schedule time data received at said step of receiving providing schedule time data;

setting up the upper limitation of the number of said contents to be provided at one time, and detecting the fact that said number of said contents to be provided at one time at said given providing schedule time based on said providing schedule set up by said providing schedule setup means reaches the upper limitation value; and

notifying said information processing device of the unavailability of a reservation at said providing schedule time over said network when the upper limitation value reached is detected at said step of detecting.

42. The program storage medium according to claim 41 wherein said step of notifying of the unavailability comprises letting the display unit of said information processing device indicate a window screen with a message to the effect that a reservation is unavailable by transmitting reservation unable data indicating the unavailability of said reservation to said information processing device over said network.

43. The program storage medium according to claim 41 wherein said step of notifying of the unavailability comprises letting the display unit of said information processing device indicate a window screen with a message of the unavailability of a reservation as well as another time schedule available for reservation by transmitting reservation unable data indicating the unavailability of said reservation to said information processing device over said network.

44. The program storage medium according to claim 41 wherein said content storing and providing means provides a live video as said content.

45. A content providing system, comprising:

an information processing device that supplies contents and providing schedule time data indicating a providing schedule time of said contents; and

a content providing device that stores said contents supplied from said information processing device, and that provides said contents to clients over said network at said providing schedule time suitable for said providing schedule time data;

wherein said content providing device, comprising:

content storing and providing means for once storing



contents supplied from an information processing device in the exclusive storage area secured for an individual person, and for providing said contents to a client over a network after retrieving it responding to a demand from said client;

providing schedule setup means for receiving providing schedule time data indicating the providing schedule time for said contents over said network, and for setting up a providing schedule for said contents based on the said providing schedule time data; and

control means for setting up the upper limitation of the number of said contents to be provided at one time, and for notifying said information processing device over said network that a reservation is impossible at said providing schedule time, when it is detected that the number of said contents to be provided at one time at said given providing schedule time based on said providing schedule reaches said upper limitation value.

46. The content providing system according to claim 45 wherein said control means lets the display unit of said information processing device indicate a window screen with a message to the effect that a reservation is unavailable by transmitting reservation unable data indicating the unavailability of said reservation to said information processing device over said network.

47. The content providing system according to claim 45 wherein said control means lets the display unit of said information processing device indicate a window screen with a message of the unavailability of a reservation as well as another time schedule available for reservation by transmitting reservation unable data indicating the unavailability of said reservation to said information processing device over said network.

48. The content providing system according to claim 45 wherein said content storing and providing means provides a live video as said content.